

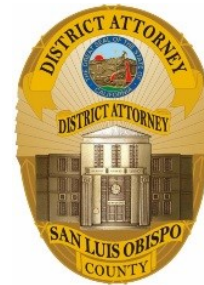
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District Attorney

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OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
County of San Luis Obispo



*** * * * *PRESS RELEASE* * * * ***

569211

Release Number

September 30, 2015

Release Date

**YONAS YOHANNES CONVICTED BY JURY OF
SOLICITING PROSTITUTION**

Approved By

Lee Cunningham
Assistant District Attorney
Contact Person (805)781-5800

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA – On September 29, 2015, a San Luis Obispo jury convicted Yonas Yohannes (DOB 5/31/88) of misdemeanor solicitation of prostitution in violation of Penal Code section 647(b). He was fined, placed on probation for two years, and ordered to serve 10 days in county jail. Mr. Yohannes was arrested on 10/21/14 during an undercover sting operation involving several San Luis Obispo county law enforcement agencies. The investigation was headed by Detective Julie van Dusen of the Pismo Beach Police Department. The District Attorney's Office will continue to vigorously prosecute those persons soliciting prostitution, and publish their conviction, in an effort to reduce the demand for such activity. Too often, the other participant is a juvenile victim of human trafficking – a modern form of slavery and itself a felony crime under Penal Code section 236.1. Deputy District Attorney Nicholas Quincey prosecuted the case.

In January 2015, the District Attorney's Office led a collaborative effort to create an Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force that includes the San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Office and other local law enforcement agencies.

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